arson. The District Planning Office and 4 vehicles were also burnt down.

No such incidents were reported from any other North Eastern States.

Strengthening of BSF at International Borders

346. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the killing of 16 BSF men just outside India's borders, the BSF have decided to strengthen the Border Security Force all over the country on all borders connected with Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan;

(b) if so, what are the total BSF personnel now operating in these areas;

(c) what are the stringent measures taken to strengthen the forces there and also to avoid such type of happenings in future on all our borders; and

(d) whether the Ministry has asked the BSF to provide details to it every month of its position on these borders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) The Government have decided to augment the Central Paramilitary Forces including the Border Security Force (BSF), in a phased manner over a period of 5 years. With such augmentation, the deployment of BSF shall be strengthened on respective borders and the force shall not be, normally, diverted for internal security duties. BSF is not deployed on the borders with Nepal and Bhutan.

(b) It will not be in the public interest to indicate the details of deployment of the BSF on the borders.

(c) BSF have taken various steps to intensify border vigilance, so that such incident does not recur.

(d) The monitoring and review of situation on borders is a regular Process.